

NOTICES

Coffee Stop in Colmworth Church Wednesday 11th October . Come and join us for a coffee and a chat - 10.30 a.m to noon. All welcome.

Colmworth guided walks will continue at 10 a.m. on **Wednesday mornings**, meeting at the triangle near the church. All welcome.

Wilden Harvest Supper takes place on Friday **6th October** at 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. in Wilden Village Hall. Tickets £10. available from Jane 771326 and Di 772170.

Ravensden Harvest Supper: Monday 9th October in the Church. Two course homemade supper. Bar. Tickets £10 each from Chris on 771139. Closing date for tickets **2nd October**.

Campfire Drinks at the Rectory

Come for drinks and nibbles around the campfire at the Rectory **Sunday 5th November** from 5-9pm. Everyone welcome. Children will need to be in the care of a responsible adult. There'll be some appropriate bonfire food, drinks and fun! Just pop in or, if you can, let us know you are coming. Hope to see you there whatever the weather! revdmadeleinealbert@gmail.com **07741466458**.

Ravensden Community Cuppa on **Tuesday 3rd October** from 2-4pm in the village hall. £2 for tea and cake. Everyone welcome.

Colmworth and Neighbours History Society meet at Colmworth Village Hall on **20th October** at **7.30 p.m.** when Barry Tomlinson will give us a brief history of the Canals of England. Contact Chris Walker 771536.

Colmworth Community Lunch takes place on **Wednesday 25th October** in church at 12 noon. Contact Heather on 376513 to book.

Colmworth Church will be open on Halloween, **31st October** from **6 – 7.30 p.m.** serving hot drinks and hotdogs. No games this year as it is a school night. No need to book, just come along.

15th October at 7 p.m. Grange Farm Offices, Sunderland Hill, Ravensden MK44 2SJ. Everybody Welcome course summary and the way forward **with puds!** Book via Wendy or Neville (01234) 376277.

Editors: Revd. Madeleine Albert 772893 revdmadeleinealbert@gmail.com
Eunice Welbourn 771583 eunicewelbourn@btinternet.com

Colmworth, Ravensden & Colmworth Newsletter

October 2017

One of the passages from the Bible that I come back to reading every so often is from Habbakuk chapter 3. This month, we will be holding our harvest service. This is traditionally when we gather together to give thanks to God for all that we are given and offer the best of the harvest back to him. It reminds us that God gives us all that we have and that all that we have still belongs to him.

But what about when we feel that we have nothing to give? Or when we going through a difficult time and there doesn't seem to be anything that we can give thanks for? One of the Old Testament prophets, Habakkuk wrote about this and says that even though there doesn't seem to be any reason to give thanks, even though things appear to be bleak, God is still God and is still reigning above everything. He writes:

Though the fig tree does not blossom,
and no fruit is on the vines;
though the produce of the olive fails
and the fields yield no food;
though the flock is cut off from the fold
and there is no herd in the stalls,
yet I will rejoice in the Lord;
I will exult in the God of my salvation.
God, the Lord, is my strength;
he makes my feet like the feet of a deer,
and makes me tread upon the heights.

Many of us will have been through times when we feel that we have nothing to offer, whether to God or others and some of us may have felt that we have nothing that we can give thanks for. What do we do then? Well, perhaps that is a time when we need to carry out the discipline of counting our blessings, sitting down and actually listing the things that we can be thankful for. We are not always so good at that!

An easy way to start thinking about the things we can give thanks for is to use what's called the Examen. It's a way of looking back over the day and reflecting on what has happened and where God might be at work. There's lots of information about this online (just google the Examen) but a simple way to reflect might be to be quiet, to think back over the day with gratitude, to give thanks for one aspect of the day and look forward to tomorrow, asking God to be with you.

When we do this regularly, it can help us see where God is at work and, even though we may feel we have nothing to say thank you for, it can help us see even little things in a different thankful and hopeful light.

Madeleine.

SERVICES FOR October 2017

Sunday 1st October

Colmworth	9.00 a.m.	Benefice Holy Communion
	4.00 p.m.	Benefice Harvest Festival
Wilden	10.30 a.m.	Benefice All together Service

Sunday 8th October

Colmworth	9.00 a.m.	Benefice Morning Worship
Ravensden	10.30 a.m.	Benefice All together Service
Wilden	6.00 p.m.	Benefice Evensong

Sunday 15th October

Ravensden	9.00 a.m.	Benefice Morning Worship
Wilden	10.30 a.m.	Benefice All Together service with communion

Sunday 22nd October

Ravensden	9.00 a.m.	Benefice Holy Communion
Colmworth	10.30 a.m.	Benefice All Together service
Wilden	6.00 p.m.	Benefice Evensong

Sunday 29th October

Do Something Different Sunday

Wilden	10.00 a.m.	Prayer Walk
	6.00 p.m.	Service of Thanksgiving & Remembering

Readings

Oct. 1 st	Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-32	Philippians 2: 1-13	Matt 21: 23-32
Oct. 8 th	Isaiah 5: 1-7	Philippians 3: 4b-14	Matt 21: 33-46
Oct. 15 th	Isaiah 25: 1-9	Philippians 4: 1-9	Matt 22: 1-14
Oct 22 nd	Isaiah 45: 1-7	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matt 22: 15-22
Oct 29 th	Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Matt 22: 34-46

Benefice Harvest Festival 2017

Harvest is a time to say thank you to God for all his provision for us. It is a time to be aware that all that we have belongs to God and to celebrate the beauty and wonder of creation. It's a joyful festival so this year we are going to be celebrating harvest with a service at Colmworth Church followed by pulled pork sandwiches (veggie option available!), mulled cider, a firepit, and a bouncy castle. The service will be suitable for all ages so come along and join us!

Colmworth Church, 4pm, Sunday 1st October. Everybody welcome.

Flowers and Brasses

Colmworth	October 8 th	Kate Abrahams and Heather Smith
	October 15 th /22 nd	Tricia Cockayne
	October 29 th	Tricia Cockayne
Ravensden	October 8 th /15 th /22 nd	Combined for Harvest
Wilden	October 1 st	Elizabeth Wootton
	October 8 th /15 th	Jane Snaith
	October 22 nd /29 th	Hilary Fisher

From the Registers

Funerals:

6th September **Louise Fyers** at Ravensden Church

8th September **Stanley George Ayres** Wilden at Bedford Crematorium

12th September **Pearl Gauna** Ravensden at Bedford Crematorium

21st September **Steve Hartley** at Wilden Church

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families at this sad time.

A Service of Thanksgiving and Remembering

Around this time of year, the Church has traditionally remembered those who we love who have died, especially those who have helped us in our lives and guided us in our faith. This year, the service will be on **Sunday 29th October** at **6pm at Wilden Church**. Everyone is welcome and we particularly invite anyone who has lost someone they loved in the past year as we remember together that Jesus is the Light of the world, even in what can seem like very dark circumstances. It would be lovely if you and your family could join us on this occasion.

Confirmation

Have you thought about taking the next step in your faith? Would you like to explore baptism and / or confirmation? Confirmation is when you want to say that the promises that were made by your parents when you were baptised (Christened) are now the promises that you want to make. When you make these promises, you say that you are a follower of Jesus, and part of the local and worldwide family of Christians. We will be looking to start a confirmation course in the New Year so whether you are a young person or older, please get in touch with Madeleine if you would like to know more.